

Cedar River Anadromous Fish Committee

Summary Minutes

October 21, 2004

Meeting Time 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Meeting Location:

Metering Building, Second Floor Conference Room

SPU Operations Control Center

2700 Airport Way South

Seattle, WA

Members and Alternates Present: Bruce Bachen (SPU), Phyllis Meyers (NMFS), Steve Foley (WDFW), Bill Robinson (Public- at-large), Frank Urabeck (Trout Unlimited), and Chuck Wischman (PSA).

Other Participants: Chuck Johnson, Dave Seiler, and Joan Thomas (WDFW), Julie Hall and Paul Faulds (SPU).

Public: Roz Glasser

Call to order

Bruce Bachen called the meeting to order at 9:18 AM.

Approval of agenda

Members unanimously approved the agenda.

Meeting minutes review and approval from September 16, 2004

The AFC unanimously approved the meeting minutes from September 16, 2004.

Interim mitigation program for coho, Chinook and steelhead

Presentation on coho research and update on recolonization study – Joe Anderson

Using a PowerPoint presentation Joe briefed members on the recolonization studies above the Landsburg Dam, specifically the movement and distribution of adult coho in 2003. He also described some of the work involving juvenile salmon this summer, which included habitat surveys, fish surveys, and tissue sample collection.

Draft questions for peer review of O. mykiss study

AFC members were provided with a proposed list of six questions for peer review of the O. mykiss study conducted WDFW. Bruce asked members for comments on the questions. Chuck J. noted that question five should include cutthroat trout. Frank U. asked if Don Campton with the US Fish and Wildlife Service would be conducting the peer review. Bruce replied Tim Romanski had discussed the project with Don and he agreed to conduct the review. Bruce asked members if they were interested in adding other reviewers and if there were any other suggested changes to the questions. Members felt that having Don as the only reviewer was fine and question five should be rewritten to include cutthroat.

WIRA 8 Chinook genetics study discussion

Bruce noted that Julie Hall was present to discuss the study questions developed for the WIRA 8 Chinook study. He noted that Hans B. could not attend the AFC meeting. Julie H. noted that the process for the peer review was very similar to the process that was described earlier for the O. mykiss study. She described the development of the study questions and provided members with a handout that listed the questions.

Establish priority research needs for RFP

The AFC developed priority research areas by species to use to invite proposals for the Interim Mitigation Program for coho, Chinook and steelhead. These would be used to help the AFC develop recommendations for funding in 2005. This list is available to all interested parties upon request.

Interim Sockeye hatchery

Fry marking program and release strategy

Bruce proposed marking fry at the hatchery to identify the egg take timing (early, middle, and late) and identify the release location (upper, middle, and lower). He noted that this strategy is more consistent with what has been done over the years and is a relatively conservative approach because the hatchery is not conducting the fry rearing study (which used more marks).

Members approved the marking strategy and reserved the right to change the release locations.

Water supply improvements

Bruce reported on the progress for permitting the water supply development for the hatchery. He noted the improvements are needed for the interim hatchery as well the new hatchery program.

New sockeye hatchery

Broodstock collection facility

Bruce reported that a significant amount of work was done to evaluate the feasibility of the I-405 bridge site for the broodstock facility. SPU and WDFW were meeting with Renton elected officials and staff to discuss the project and to describe modifications that would better address Renton's concerns.

Information and discussion items

Weir operations and egg take update

Chuck J. reported the hatchery had 7 million eggs incubating and the potential for another 4 million with in the ponds.

Sockeye and Chinook counts in Cedar River

Steve reported the sockeye numbers were somewhat lower than expected. He noted that the parent year for this brood had counts in the 20,000 range for a number of weeks and this year the numbers appear to be already dropping off.

He reported the number of Chinook redds below Landsburg numbered 417, which does not include the tributaries. He reported crews on the river reported 30 new redds yesterday. The adipose clip rate is around 30%, which includes returning clipped 5-year-old fish.

Landsburg fish passage operations

Paul F. provided Chinook and coho counts at the Landsburg Fish Ladder. He reported that as of October 20th 48 Chinook were passed above the dam. That included 21 females and 27 males. Of those fish 14 females were clipped and 18 males were clipped. A total of 6 coho were passed upriver so far, 3 females and 3 males. None of the coho were clipped.

Public comment

Bruce asked Roz G. if she wished to address the AFC and she declined.

Additional Information and discussion item

Locks PIT Tag Detection Summary Report by R2 Resource Consultants

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned a few minutes after 1:00 PM.